

# WISCASSET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

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**Dr. Terry L. Wood**  
**Superintendent of Schools**  
[twood@wiscasset-schools.org](mailto:twood@wiscasset-schools.org)

Dear Staff, Students, and Families,

Out of an abundance of caution, this letter is to inform you that there may have been possible exposures to WES staff and students. Without a definitive test result of a confirmed case of (COVID-19) at the Wiscasset Elementary School, school instruction will move to RED, or fully remote instruction beginning tomorrow, **Monday, November 23rd and Tuesday, November 24th**. All students will be instructed remotely. On Monday, Group A will receive remote instruction with their regular in-person Monday schedule, and on Tuesday, they will have their regular Thursday remote instruction schedule. On Monday, Group B will receive remote instruction with their regular remote Monday schedule and on Tuesday they will have their regular Thursday in-person schedule. I know this is so confusing, but we are trying to make sure our students are receiving the education they deserve in these very difficult times. Teachers will be contacting parents and guardians to ensure everyone is all set with the zoom links for these remote instructional days. After the holidays, we will have a new schedule in order to provide students with more opportunities for interventions and support. If your child has been fully remote or homeschooled and you would like them to attend in-person instruction, we will be making the changes after the Thanksgiving break starting the week of November 30th. Please let the classroom teacher, as well as the office know so we can begin making plans to ensure classroom, bussing and other issues are addressed prior to November 30th.

Based on Maine CDC recommendations, and using our own safety protocols for safety precautions, the **Wiscasset Elementary School** will be closed for two days for any in-person instruction. We will be conducting extensive, cleaning, and disinfecting to help prevent any spread of COVID-19.

Keeping each student and staff member safe and healthy is our number one priority. Please be assured that during this time we will take all precautionary measures to ensure that our schools are safe to return to school on November 30th.

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that ranges from mild to severe. It can be more severe in adults 60 years and older and in those with underlying conditions. The virus mainly spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes and an uninfected person breathes in the virus. Signs and symptoms include:

- fever or chills
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- muscle or body aches
- new loss of taste or smell
- congestion or runny nose
- diarrhea
- cough
- fatigue
- headache
- sore throat
- nausea or vomiting

Please keep in mind that many things can cause respiratory illness, so students and staff should be up-to-date on influenza and routine vaccinations.

These measures include proper handwashing with soap and warm water, which is especially important after using the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. When soap and water is not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands and avoid close contact with people who are sick. Cover your cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

School related questions can be directed to Nurse, Marilyn Sprague by calling 207-882-7767. For general COVID-19 questions, dial 211 (or 1-866-811-5695). You can also text your ZIP code to 898-211 or email [info@211maine.org](mailto:info@211maine.org). Call your personal healthcare provider for questions about your symptoms. More information can be found at [www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus) or [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

Sincerely,

Dr. Terry L. Wood  
Superintendent of Schools  
Wiscasset School Department